The Office alleges that the TPO mimetic peptide listed in claim 2 and 9-12 and in the specification lacks a sequence identifier. However, this is a branched sequence. The sequence listing rules apply only to *unbranched* sequences. Thus, Applicants assert the application is currently in compliance with the sequence listing rules.

Priority

The Office asserts that the claim to priority is improper. Applicants will file a petition to accept the priority claim.

Claim objections

Applicants have amended the typographical error in claim 34.

Rejections

Applicants have amended claims 9-12 as suggested the Office.

Applicants believe that all outstanding rejections have been overcome. Thus, allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /Andrea Jo Kamage/ Andrea Jo Kamage Reg. No. 43,703

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